

FREE LABOR IN TROPICAL PRODUCTIONS.

Emancipation in the British West Indies.

CIRCULAR.

BARBADOS, W. I., January, 1858.

26 Mr.

What are the advantages resulting, in this island, from the Abolition of Slavery?

1. What is the religious condition, at this time, of the island generally, and the emancipated classes in particular, compared with that during Slavery? And in how far may the emancipation be supposed to have affected it?

2. What is the state of education now, compared with what it was under Slavery?

3. Is there less crime now than formerly, and to what extent?

4. What is the price of land now, and what was it under Slavery? And whether the investment is considered more advantageous now than it was then?

5. Is there greater security of person and property now than there was in the state of Slavery?

6. Generally speaking, is the day's work of the free laborer more or less than that of the slave? And in what proportion?

7. What was the estimated cost of slave labor per diem—laborer, including the proportion of the investment in them, the law and other costs to keep them in order, as well as maintenance in food, clothing, &c., and what is now the daily cost of free labor?

8. Do the laborers usually work by the day or job, or both? And how many hours constitute a day's work?

9. Are the estates, generally speaking, better or worse cultivated under free labor than they were under Slavery?

10. Compare the cost of production, on the whole, with the quantity of produce raised, apart from its actual market value, has that cost been increased or diminished under the free-labor system? And are the profits of the plantations, on the whole, more or less than they were under Slavery?

11. Is Emancipation generally acknowledged in this island to be a blessing? And if not, by what particular class or classes is it considered otherwise?

12. Has there been, at any time since Emancipation, any manifestation of unfeeling feelings on the part of the emancipated, for the things endured in Slavery?

13. Do the laborers usually take a greater interest in the State than they did under Slavery?

14. What time do the usual engagements for Estate labor leave them for house work, or work in their own grounds?

15. Are houses generally better rent free on the Estates? Or, if they pay rent, how is it rated, and what are the conditions?

16. Are laborers required to pay taxes, pecuniarily affecting their condition and circumstances?

17. Have they the right of voting equally with other classes?

18. On the whole, have they been benefited or otherwise by emancipation, and in what respects?

19. What is the present condition of the poor whites? And how have they been affected by Emancipation?

CHARLES TAPPAN.

FROM THE REV. JOSEPH THORNE.

(Colored) who preached *Early in the Morning*.

1. The advantages arising from the emancipation of the slaves are so very obvious as to be evident to the most skeptical, who will take the trouble of looking into the matter; and with reference to the religious state of the people, the churches and chapels are much better attended than formerly; and the behavior during the services is better, and the singing more of a much higher tone, taken as a whole, than during the time of Slavery.

2. It is much more common than formerly, and a far greater number of children attend school, than they possibly could in the time of Slavery.

3. There is a difference of opinion, but I venture to say that, from the fact that in the times of Slavery the master was judge and executioner in his own person, and that every estate had its jail, and that the law was placed before the public, all must have been before the public tribunals of the land. I am therefore of opinion that crime has not increased.

4. The value of land has been much increased; this can be easily proved by the very high prices estates have brought that have changed hands of late. The same estate formerly sold for \$100, lately sold for \$500.

5. Undoubtedly, there is a common interest now; formerly, it was not so; all now have an interest in the State, and are endeavoring to maintain order and quietness, for the protection of life and property.

6. When they were hired out in the time of Slavery, it was at the rate of 10 cents per day; with allowance, now, they cost one shilling; but they can earn two shillings with ease, and very many of them do so.

7. Both, nine hours in the time allowed.

8. Many of the estates have taken in a great many pieces of waste lands, and are now giving much larger returns than formerly, say, doubling the quantity of sugar they formerly made.

9. All classes have benefited by the boon that was conferred by removing the awful curse of Slavery from the island; and I have seen few who think otherwise; I do not know any such.

10. Never for one moment. At this time, I could point to several who have been most faithful friends and benefactors to their former masters, and are their chief support and reformers from poverty and wretchedness.

11. I would not say the whites are all men, but I think the employers have no reason to find fault with their want of attention to the affairs of the estate, as their properties have very much improved since the late war.

12. This depends greatly on the class of work they are employed for, as in the time of reaping the cane they are necessarily later at work. They then earn higher wages, but when they work by task, per day, or for nine hours.

13. With few exceptions, they are not; they are generally paid for the labor at so much per acre.

14. Any laborer who had any amount of land would be taxed like his fellow-citizens. Boatmen and porters take a ticket, for the which they pay according to the length of their journey.

15. Yes; if they possess property to the amount required by law, they have the right of voting at all elections.

16. That question is self-evident to every one, and a great many of them have become proprietors of lands, and are fulfilling all the duties of free men.

17. Many of them have suffered from emancipation. According to an old law which existed, each white person was entitled to be a tenant on the estates, with an acre of land for their support; that ceased ever before the emancipation. The repealing of this law has injured them more than emancipation. Many of them are industrious, and have gained property since they have been thrown in their own resources.

JOSEPH THORNE.

FROM SAMUEL J. EDGELL.

Manager of "Constant" Estate.

1. Since emancipation, it has been found requisite to increase the number of chapels very considerably, to accommodate the large number of the emancipated class, who were previously in the habit of attending public worship; besides those of the church of England, a great deal has also been done by the ministers of the Wesleyan and Methodist societies, towards the same end.

2. Schools have been erected in every parish in the island, which are fully attended by children of the emancipated class, great anxiety being evinced by the parents to obtain some education for their children, and in many instances for themselves also.

3. Crime can scarcely be said to have increased, although the calendars of the criminal courts present a long list of cases; but when it is remembered that prior to emancipation the greatest number of these cases were settled at home, I am almost inclined to think that it may be about the same average.

4. The price of land at the present date is about forty per cent. beyond what it was some twenty years ago; and I should say the investment must be considered safe, from the fact that properties need only to be offered to meet a ready sale.

5. I think there is greater security for both.

6. More work is obtained by nearly one-third, but this may be attributed to the extensive use of agricultural implements, which renders the light labor less laborious.

7. I cannot answer that question.

8. Job work is currently resorted to; but when it is required out of crop, day labor is resorted to frequently.

9. The estates are under much higher and more extensive cultivation since emancipation.

10. I cannot answer that question.

11. I believe, generally, to the form of this subject—that the freedom of the slaves has proved a great blessing to all classes, except in the case of the poor whites.

12. I have observed of any sort of revenge.

13. I think they do.

14. About an average of one-third of the time, including Saturdays, except during the reaping season, when the whole day is required, for which they are paid extra.

15. In most cases, houses are furnished on the estates, at a rent of from ten to twenty cents per week. There is some desire on the part of the laborer to put up his own house on the allotment which he rents from the estate.

16. The laborers pay no taxes except in cases (and they are many) when they have purchased lands or houses apart from the estates.

17. When the property amounts to a qualification they vote as free men.

18. There is no doubt that, as a mass, the laborers have greatly benefited by emancipation. They are more honest, more cleanly in their habits, industrious, more attentive to the form of religion, and with a strong desire to outdo respectability of appearance.

19. The poor whites of the island have been the chief sufferers by emancipation. Not being used to field labor, they were dependent on that of their one or two slaves to cultivate the few acres of land, many to two or ten, from which they derived their support.

20. Small holdings have either been bought up and added to the estates, or been cut up and sold out in one or two lots to the laborers. Much dissatisfaction has resulted from this class in consequence, and nothing has been done, by legislative enactment or otherwise, to ameliorate their condition.

SAMUEL J. EDGELL.

Constant Plantation, Barbados.

FROM REV. A. CLEMENS.

Moravian Missionary.

SENIOR MISSION HOUSE, BARBADOS.

January 20, 1858.

DEAR SIR: Want of time forbids me to give you a minute and ready reply to your interesting questions. I beg leave to state a few facts only that have come under my notice during two years' residence in this island, and to leave the rest to be filled up by others, as to the blessings which have followed that noble triumph of philanthropy, the emancipation of the negro.

We have four churches in this island, which are generally well filled on the Lord's Day, mostly by people of the lower classes, among whom the religious spirit is much awakened. The churches hold both on the Sabbath and on week-day evenings, are also well attended. It is true that there is a want of fixed moral principles, and that the people are generally ignorant; yet of the 1,600 people we have under our spiritual care at our four stations, not a few are leading an honest and steady life, in spite of many temptations they are surrounded with.

We have sixteen schools connected with our several stations, attended by upwards of 1,200 children, both of the colored and white population; instructed in reading, writing, and ciphering, and are taught the knowledge of God's holy Word. Many of these show good abilities, and money is being made by the sale of their labor. The half are able to read the Bible. Although some of the laboring people seem altogether indifferent as regards the moral and religious education, the majority are anxious to give their children some education, and are proud of those who have got "some learning," as they say. Hardly any of our white population are ignorant, and the colored school, although some are rather irregular in sending them, as they are too ready to allow any domestic engagement to interfere with the duties of the school.

I believe that there is not the least doubt, that a great change has taken place since the day of emancipation, for the better, both as regards the moral and religious condition of the people generally, and the emancipated classes in particular, as well as the state of education. The number of churches and chapels is increasing; schools are multiplying, and more children are seen after their being opened, are filled with happy and industrious children. Infant schools, which are established in different parts of the island, are attended by many children in this island, are likely to prove very beneficial to the rising generation.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1858.

THE SO-CALLED DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

In political discussions and party action, for many years, there has been on the part of the so-called Democracy an extreme devotion to organization, and an almost total indifference to measures and principles. Whatever is decreed and ordered by the central power, that is adopted and made the rule of action, without regard to its merits or demerits, by the treated and disciplined partisans. It would be less mischievous if these aspirants and stipendiaries were satisfied with merely conforming to the edicts and requirements of the Administration; but, instead of this, a constant and persevering effort is made to misrepresent and misstate those who are opposed to them. This has been particularly the case among the so-called Democrats of the free States, who have exhibited the strangest inconsistency and duplicity in their political conduct, since the adjustment of the financial issues during the Polk Administration.

In the slave States, matters have been somewhat different, for in nearly all of them the Nullifiers, or the Southern Rights party, are predominant. They have had a special object in view in converting the National Government into an instrument to promote a great monopoly interest, and through its agency consolidating the local municipal institution of a few States into a central and controlling power, above and beyond the Constitution and the laws.

With this intent, the uniform and traditional Territorial policy of the Government was subverted, the Missouri Compromise was repealed, the Dred Scott decision was promulgated, a persistent effort has been made to enslave Kansas, and a series of acts, more or less successful in detail, have been witnessed. In all of them the Southern Rights party were stimulated by that local monopoly interest, which, in their respective States, is an absorbing and controlling element of power, and which is fundamentally intolerant and despotic. They have not disguised their desire and intention to nationalize and extend this great local wrong; and, however much they may dissent from and condemn some of the means, and opposed as we are to any such extension of the monopoly, we are morally and politically wrong, and incompatible with the Constitution, will let us do them the justice to say, they have not equivocated and presented false pretences, but, as a general thing, boldly avowed their pretence. Under the delusions, interested appeals, party excitement, and the absence of free discussion, it is but charitable to suppose that many have wrought themselves into the belief that their motives are correct, and that Washington, Jefferson, and those who framed and all who have administered the Government since the middle of the nineteenth century, were in error.

But, with the so-called Democracy of the free States, the case is different, for they have not the candor nor the courage to admit that they have abandoned the old and true Territorial policy of the Government, nor do they assent that Slavery, the local creature of the States which authorize it, is national. Their apology is, that the Administration requires obedience, and makes it a test question of party fidelity. Their personal aspirations have led them to embark on the billows of party, without principle to govern or guide them; and, as a consequence, the political shores through the whole free States are lined with the wrecks of politicians and statesmen, whose hopes and prospects have been founded. They abandoned the plain chart of constitutional and many duty, for the false compass of party expediency. It is evident, and have been strangled in a vain endeavor to stem the tide of a righteous public opinion. The lust of office and the discipline of party impelled them to a course that destroyed their own self-respect, and whatever lure for the moment beguiled them, the end has been, and must inevitably be, a forfeiture of public confidence.

It was the great mistake of the last and the present Administration, that they each place the Government in a false position on those questions of public interest that are before the country. New issues have arisen in the past, and it was for the Executive to decide in what manner the Government should be administered on these new questions. In each case the President departed from the ancient landmarks, and adopted the sectional theory of the Nullifiers, or Southern Rights party, which had nullified and threatened disruption if their schemes were not made the policy of the Administration. They unsettled everything in Kansas, and in the Territories, and in the States, and in the Nation. New issues have arisen in the past, and it was for the Executive to decide in what manner the Government should be administered on these new questions. In each case the President departed from the ancient landmarks, and adopted the sectional theory of the Nullifiers, or Southern Rights party, which had nullified and threatened disruption if their schemes were not made the policy of the Administration. They unsettled everything in Kansas, and in the Territories, and in the States, and in the Nation.

Let any one disposed to understand correctly the course of the so-called Democratic party during the last four or five years, examine their action through all its vagaries and inconsistencies, and will find that this is a test question, and that the so-called Democracy, by maintaining the Missouri Compromise, were converted into opponents. In the slave States the repeal was denounced by the Southern Rights party, on the ground that Slavery was national, and extended over the whole public domain; but in the free States the so-called Democracy protested against nationalizing and extending Slavery; and their excuse for a change of front was that Slavery was a local institution, and the right of the people in the

Territory to decide for themselves in regard to their own domestic institutions. Which of these two antagonisms in the same party, the Southern Rights or the so-called Democracy, ultimately prevailed, need not be mentioned. Degradation is a just and always succumb.

Having repealed the Missouri Compromise, it became necessary that the Central Government should go still farther, and abandon the established Territorial policy of the Government. It was demanded in the name of Southern Rights, and the Administration recognized it as valid. Of course, when the Administration yielded, and made it a party test, the so-called Democracy surrendered. They had no principles, no convictions, that could be allowed to conflict with the standard erected by the Federal authorities, and the Southern Rights party had decided what should be that standard. But to soften and mitigate their abandonment, the so-called Democracy professed a reverential regard for Territorial sovereignty. The people of the Territories were sovereign, and must decide for themselves. But, in

BY ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

Dispatch from the Lord Mayor of London.

New York, Aug. 21.—The following dispatch was received to-day by Mr. Tinsman, from London:

London, Aug. 23, 1858.—From the Lord Mayor of London to the Hon. D. P. Tinsman, Mayor of New York: The Lord Mayor of London most cordially reciprocates the congratulations of the Mayor of New York upon the success of so important an undertaking as the completion of the Atlantic telegraph cable. It is indeed one of the most glorious triumphs of the age, and reflects the highest credit upon the energy, skill, and perseverance, of all those who have been instrumental in its completion. The Lord Mayor sincerely trusts that, by the blessing of Almighty God, it may be the means of cementing the kind feelings which now exist between the two countries.

R. W. CARDEN, Lord Mayor of London.

New York, Aug. 24.—Mr. Field has received a dispatch from London, dated to-day.

Another flash from the old world.

Trinity Bay, August 25.—The following dispatch was received here this afternoon, from Valencia:

Valencia, Ireland, August 25, 1858.—To C. P. Field, New York: I send my warmest congratulations on the completion of the Atlantic telegraph; and God be praised!

SAMUEL GURNEY, Chairman of the Atlantic Telegraph.

Trinity Bay, August 25.—The message of the Lord Mayor of London was received here at 10:35 on Monday night, and was forwarded to New York as soon as the lines opened.

Treaty of Peace Between China and the Allies.

Mutiny at Bombay Subdued.

Valencia, Ireland, August 25.—The arrival of later advices from India and China to London, we have important intelligence to transmit.

A treaty of peace has been concluded with China. England and France are to be indemnified for the expenses attending the war.

Bombay dates to the 19th of July say that the mutiny was being rapidly quelled and subdued.

The London papers of yesterday (Tuesday) had a long and interesting report by Mr. Bright, the company's engineer, on the Atlantic telegraph.

The steamer Asia will leave Liverpool for New York on Saturday.

London, Friday, August 27.—The Emperor Napoleon will return to Paris to-morrow.

The King of Prussia is sick, and unable to visit Queen Victoria.

Her Majesty the Queen returns home on Monday next.

The terms of the treaty with China open the trade of that empire to all nations.

Christianity is to be allowed. Foreign missionaries are to be permitted to reside in the country, and to be made to England and France.

There is no mention of America in the terms of the treaty.

Madras arrived at Suez on the 7th inst, with Bombay dates to the 19th of July.

There is nothing important from India to add to the news of that country.

[Note.—We are authorized to say that no commercial news of any description has yet been received from the cable, nor will any be until after the line shall have been thrown open to the public.—Reporter.]

Trinity Bay, August 27, P. M.—The only news from the cable is a dispatch from the army, dated the 19th inst, that the Gwalior army had been broken up, and much progress made in the establishment of order in all the disturbed districts.

Speaking of the news by the telegraph from Europe announcing the end of the war in China, the Herald remarks:

"It was considered favorable for cotton holders, as peace with China would bring silver to the market, and thereby increase the demand for cotton in the United States, and augment the consumption of raw cotton by manufacturers."

The holders of tea, which had ruled dull for some time, were taken all aback by the news, and the feeling in the market was that the tea would be sold at a discount, and that they would yield any concessions of money until the steamer can bring details of the treaty of peace with the Chinese Government."

Haitian, August 25.—The Canada passed the steamship America on the 15th inst. The steamer Kangaroo arrived on the 12th.

The arrival of the Canada contains the following additional news:

England.—The Lord Mayor of Dublin is expected to give a banquet to the Lord Mayor of New York on the 15th inst.

The Lord Mayor of New York is expected to give a banquet to the Lord Mayor of London on the 15th inst.

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Matters and Things in Utah.

The New York Times has letters from Salt Lake City to July 24th, thus looking at the Utah question from a different point of view.

In Spain, the harvest of Castile is much better than has been hoped for.

The favorable prospect of abundant winter wheat, which excited a few weeks back, in Sicily, have been completely destroyed by tremendous sirocco winds.

St. John's, N. B., August 30.—The steamship Propeller arrived here this morning from Quebec, with dates from Liverpool to the 20th and from Galway to the 21st, having sailed on the evening of that day.

A project is on foot at Paris to connect Europe with China by telegraph.

The latest advices from London by telegraph represent cotton as steady, flour quiet, wheat advancing, and corn quiet.

At London, on Saturday, consuls were unchanged.

A boundary difficulty had arisen between France and Switzerland.

Austria has decided to increase her heavy expenditures fifty per cent.

It is reported that the King of Prussia will abdicate in October next.

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